

Minutes from the Community Preservation Committee meeting held on 11/17/22

Meeting called to order at 4:05 pm.

Members present: Sue Coxon - Chair (SC), Jared Gelormino (JG), JP Boscarino (JB), Randy Thunfors (RT),

Peter Metz (PM), John Masiero (JM) via Zoom video call.

Earl Moffat (EM) joined in person at 4:30 pm.

Minutes from 10/19/22 accepted.

It was noted by SC that the agenda for this meeting was limited mainly to some follow up items from the 10/19 meeting.

The first item mentioned by SC was the idea that had been suggested of possibly assisting the Foundry with funding from CPC to help with open space improvement to remedy an ongoing dispute with neighboring businesses. It was determined that this type of project would not meet the requirements for a CPC project.

JB asked if any applications had been received for projects. No members of the group were aware of any and SC will check with Marie Ryan to confirm. JB also mentioned that WS Parks and Rec planned on submitting two applications prior to the deadline.

We had a discussion around a more simplified application for preliminary review by the committee. PM and SC thought that the current form had been shortened considerably and further modifications were not needed. JB did point out that the current application on the town website is a PDF format and is not formatted with fillable fields to easily complete the application. SC will check with Marie Ryan if this can be modified.

RT then suggested that we have a discussion regarding the ideas that WS Parks and Rec planned to submit, and that the group could give preliminary feedback and suggestions.

JB brought up the first idea which is to construct a pavilion or some other type of covered structure for use at one of the town park locations. The two main locations under consideration are at the park and fields behind the town hall, or at the Card Pond Park. The group had a lukewarm reception to the idea. The main concerns were the ballpark costs (\$30 - \$40K), parking concerns, maintenance, and the benefit that this would bring to the town. One suggestion was to perhaps place this type of structure somewhere closer to the center of town near the parking and public bathrooms.

This conversation led to further questions by RT regarding the status of funds that the CPC has access to. SC thinks that we are near \$200K in total. It was suggested that SC reach out to the town accountant for an updated actual summary of the account prior to our next meeting.

RT then started a discussion about a potential senior housing project that is in preliminary planning that may be located behind the tennis courts beyond the town park. The project includes 10 duplex units. This project is still early phase and RT hopes to have more details prior to the next meeting for further discussion.

The discussion then shifted back to WS Parks and Rec and a second idea that we planned to submit for a Dog Park to be located on town property near Card Pond Park. PM and most of the committee seemed

to like this idea and thought it may have good potential. We discussed that the construction costs would be limited mainly to fencing and some other small items. We also talked about some of the challenges such as clean-up, waste removal, and maintenance. JB mentioned that the Dog Park will likely require its own committee to oversee these types of things. It was determined that WS Parks and Rec will proceed with an application for this project.

JG then opened a discussion about the process for approving the projects including the town meeting. He wanted to know if this needed to be a separate meeting or if it could be included in the regular town meeting. The committee agreed that we will need to look into these requirements further as we move forward. The preliminary plan is to have several applications to present to the Select Board by the end of March and prior to the town meeting.

The topic of advertising was brought up again, and EM suggested that we add the Shoppers Guide to the mix amongst the others that we've already used. The committee agreed to move forward with this and JG will reach out to get this started.

We also discussed extending the deadline for applications through the end of the year. PM really thought this was necessary and most of the group agreed. We decided on Friday, December 30th to be the new deadline. SC will reach out to Marie Ryan to update the date on the town website.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 5th at 4:00 pm at the Town Hall. There will be a Zoom option as well for those who cannot meet in person.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm.

Minutes submitted by JP Boscarino, Secretary